The sighes of Fraunce for the death of their late King, HENRY the fourth.

The true maner of his Murther: The forme of the Coronation of Prince LEWES *at S. Augustines.*

With the Oration made by Mounsier *Servin*, Attourney generall to the King, exhorting both the Peeres and people to alleageance.

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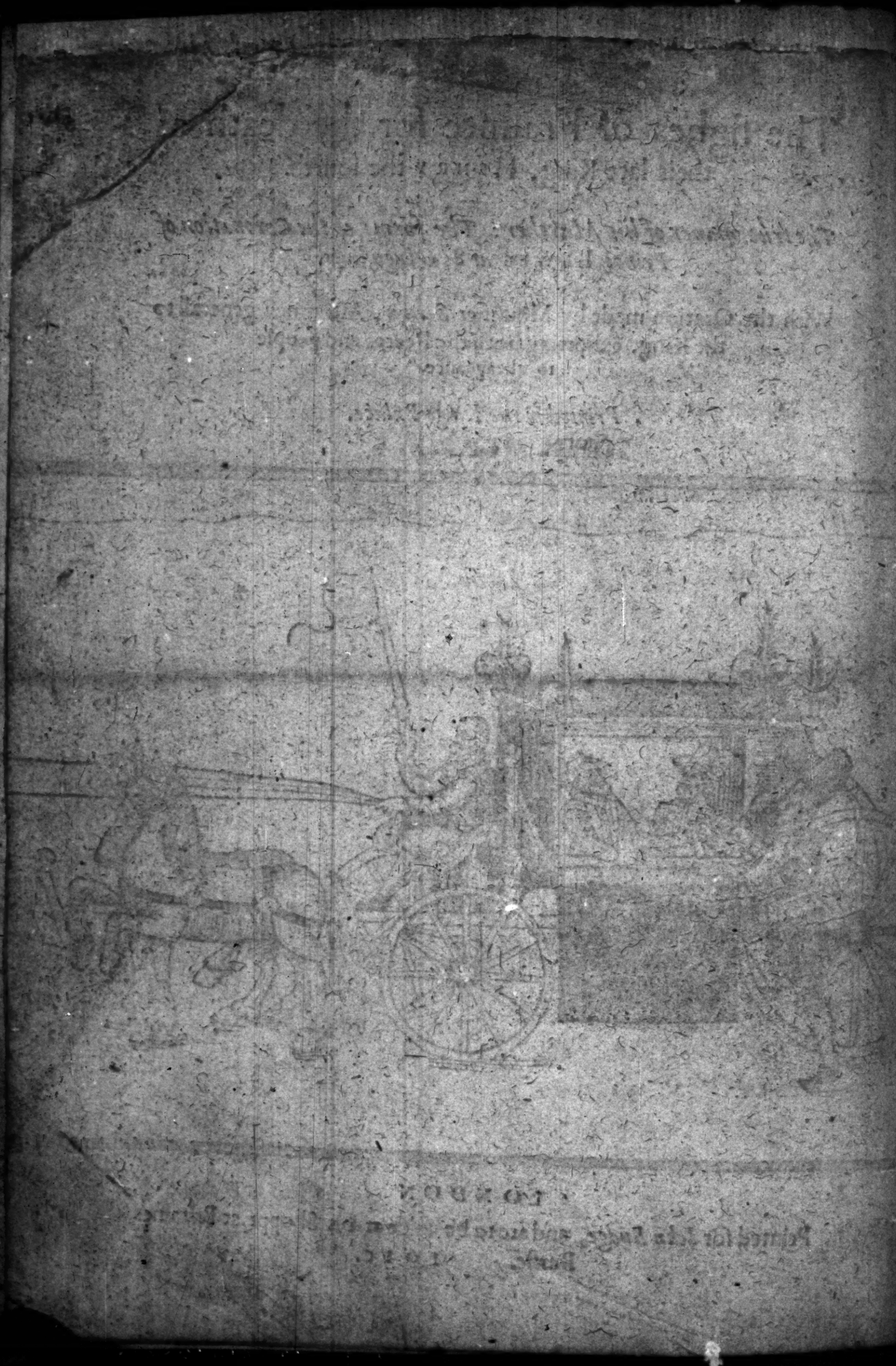

THE MVRTHER OF *HENRY* THE FOVRTH, THE LATE FRENCH KING.

MY Liege, I had made my ſelfe ready to write of the Pomps and Royalties at the Coronation of the Queene, from which purpoſe I am ſo altered, that I am at this time bound to ſpeake of the

great griefe of Fraunce, and of the faithfulneſſe of the French Nation. But it greeues me to repreſent that vnto you, which is too much in your memory: yet the King your father hath left ſuch an eſtimation of his life, that I cannot refuſe the laſt duties of my pen.

It is true that there ſhould be an *Apelles* to paint worthily ſo great and conquering an *Alexander*: and therfore I beare the praiſes of his Palmes, to them that ſhall ſit downe to write of his victories? if there can be a pen found to flie as farre as the brute of his armes, and the renowne of them doth ſound. And if a tongue could haue as many good ſayings, as this Prince had valour and clemencie to conquer and pardon his enemies, how many tongues could be heard of your ſubiects, that haue felt the fruites of the peace, the which his courage procured them, and which his grace preferred them vnto? The remembrance of which, ſhould call them to come and water his Toombe with their teares, and then

render

render the testimonie of their faithfulnesse to your Maiestie, and beginning, by their plaints for their losses, an acknowledgement of the lawfulnesse of your succession.

My Liege, as the birds testifie by their silence the displeasure they haue, by the losse of the sunne, and how they doe salute the Spring, like reioycing Citizens with their melodious harmony; euen so your Subiects proue the iust sorrowes that they apprehend by the death of his Maiestie, and come at the beginning of your Reigne, crying for ioy, *Viue le Roy*, long Liue the king.

And you, Lady, if you can promise to your selfe, that you may giue truce to your griefes, marke the losse of your Spouse, and the zeale of the Princes of your kingdome, that hauing no sooner seen the lying down of the king your husband, but are as soone come to salute the rising vp of your sonne, as their Soueraigne.

The Princes (I do not name them) haue beene the first that haue offered him their swords, so recommendable are the effects

that

that haue beene seene; vnder whose defence he is so strengthned, they by him so supported, & all France defended, that not a heart that needs to feare, if heauen doe not fall.

The Officers of the Crowne, the Peeres of France, and all the noble French (that all other Nations may take example to obey their Prince) they haue witnessed courageously, that death hath had no power to shake their constancie and fidelity.

The chiefe of Iustice and the soueraigne Senate haue found & acknowledge, that you shewed them pitty, when you had all might to commaund.

And hee that hath the gouernment of policy, hath put order to disorder, that where it did appeare, the whole world was resolued to weepe for the dead Prince, they are now as ready to honour the liuing.

And you Frenchmen, that are come frō all parts, to see the Coronation of your Queene, are the eye-witnesses of her establishment, the which you haue beheld celebrated in greater glory and pompe, then

you

you could imagine, on Thursday the thirteenth of May (according to the French computation) yet you haue seene her on Friday the fourteenth following, in a more violent affliction, then may be named or expressed.

They then that had the curiosity to see her triumph on the one day, cannot chuse but haue compassion, to behold her widowhood on the next.

But great calmes are euer the fore-runners of great stormes. The Marriners are not proud to make their sailes swell with a prosperous winde, neither loose they their courage in the violence of tempest. So, as you haue looked with great modesty on the Coronation of your Queene, regard her losse with constancie, and let the thought of obedience neuer slide from your duties; whereby it may appeare that the Vnion of France is a terror to all other Nations: that you can conquer, as well as fight, & know how to giue law to your enemies with force, as you can take it from your king with humility.

And that this may ſerue you as a proofe, that you haue had the moſt valiant king, the moſt mercifull, the moſt wiſe, and the moſt iudicious that euer was: beloued of his people, feared of his enemies, and admired of all the world. It is your duties, & by your duty a benefit to deſire, that his Sonne ſucceede him in his perfections, as well as in his kingdomes; that the vertue of the Queene, eſtabliſhed as Regent in thoſe kingdomes, do ſupply the youth of the king, and he with her prudence make good to Fraunce the promiſes by the birth of a Son. In the meane time we ſhall endour cõplaining for him, whoſe loſſe we begin to find, and tell this hiſtory to our poſterity.

In Paris the chiefe city of France, whom al Prouinces doe owe homage vnto, for the meruailes which be found in her, being more properly to be termed, & more ſooneto be found, a little world, then a great City; A miſerable Aſſaſin, and a damnable Parricide, borne at Angouleſme, named *Francis Rauaillart*, hath bereaued vs of the Father of our Patrimonie, taken away the

Pearle of kings, and vndone vs of the perfection of the world.

This villaine, who hauing beene preuented of the violence of this fatall blow, and the fury of his intent in foure ſeuerall attempts, by the protection of the higheſt & vigilance of his Guards, the Friday the fourteenth of May, waighting his opportunity, he found him in his Caroche in the end of the ſtreete of *Ferronnerie*, who ſeeing the Caroche ſtayd by the meeting of a Caroche and a Cart, as the King ſhould paſſe, he came out of a ſhop, where he had kept himſelfe againſt the kings cõming, although ſomewhat diſtracted in ſhewe of face before the attempt, and ſo came to the Caroche where his Maieſty was, & as he was then in earneſt talke with other Peeres, who were then preſent in company with him, & himſelfe dreadles of ſuch an imminent danger, leaning on the Columne, hee gaue him two blowes with a knife, with ſo ſuddaine an executiõ, that the murther was ſooner found then the murtherer: yet in the end by diligent ſearch he was taken, and the king caried back to the Louu're, with the teares of the Lords, & receaued with plaints at his cõming back.

The Counsell rose, all the City was in an vproare at this vntimely accident, while his Guards with a mournful diligence, came and yeelded themselues before the Louu're, to receaue (& be ordred by) the commandements of the Counsell, which appointed vnto them this especiall charge, that they should let none passe but the Princes of the bloud, & men of eminent place. Then came the Souldiers and Court of Guard, offering voluntarily both their Armes and liues, and to complaine & mourne the most monstrous murther of their deceased king, and for the firme establishing of the liuing Prince his sonne.

On Saterday the fifteenth of May (according to the French computation) the young Prince *Lewes* the thirteenth, and of the offspring of S. *Lewes*, did transport himself cloathed in purple to S. Augustines, where the Court of Parliament had formerly been kept, concerning the Coronation of the Queene, and the former triumph. When being set in his Chaire of Iustice, he was proclaimed king in the presence of the Queene mother, being set by his side, vailed ouer in a vayle of blacke Cypresse, assisted with foure Cardinals, foure

Peeres

Peeres of the Church, ſundry Biſhops, Prelates, & ſome princes of the bloud, and other princes who were then reſident in Court, the Conſtable of France, diuers Dukes, the Marſhall of France, officers of the crowne, and gouernours of the prouinces, where was declared by an act, pronounced by the mouth of the Lord chancelour, by the aduice of the cardinals, the princes, peeres, and Lords heereupon named and of this Court of parliament, that the Queene receaued the title of Queene mother regent of Fraunce, for the gouernment of the king her ſonnes body, his kingdomes, and his needfull affaires. After which, the gates were opened, that the people might ſee the yong king in his throne. When Mounſiere *Seruin* the kings Attourney generall, made an admoniſhing Oration to the people vpon the buſineſſe in hand, and in eſpeciall of the good that France ſhould receaue by the gouernment of the ſaid Queene, concluding that what was paſt ſhould be notified in the prouinces, and withall requiring them to pray, that God may preſerue vs our king *Lewes*. And that his age may make him gather the fruites of our obedience, wee doe ſweare him ſo much faithfulnes of conſtancie

and of zeale, that we find we haue more paine in the ſpeaking of it, then we know we ſhall haue in the executing of it.

And to begin in good time, let vs in his glory pray that he may in good time come to the protection of Chriſt, and in this hope we muſt bee contributarie with teares on the Hearce of the dead King, ſince the will of heauen doth leade vs thither, ſaying, that ſince he hath dealt with vs like a father and like a prince, we entreate of the diuine Maieſtie, that hauing eſtabliſhed him to be a ſhield to his people, it would pleaſe him to receiue him to his glory. And as hee forgaue them that had offended him, ſo he will forgiue him his offences, vſing his mercies ſooner, then his Iuſtice, that hauing had ſo many and ſo faire victories in the world, both in forraine Countries and at home, hee may bee yet victorious raigning in heauen, and hauing enioyed the peace of ſo flowriſhing an Empire, he may enioy the felicitie of the happy.

After which, let vs offer our vowes and our ſuffrages, for the continuing proſperity both of the king and the Queene, that it may pleaſe God ſo to further and proſper the king,

that

that he may hold his people vnder the yoake of his Commaundements, and so see him augment in perfection as in age, alwaies to bee beloued of his subiects, fauoured of his Allies, and feared of the Nations barbarous; that one day he may spread & hang out his ensignes in the Land of Misbeleeuers, and that he may keepe the promises of his birth in the ouerthrow of the Ottomans.

That the Queene assisted with the grauity of the Counsell, may reape the rest of the fruits of his vertues, that she may inioy his authority with so much prosperitie, that it may prooue to the aduancement of the king to the honour of her, and to the comfort of the people. That the atchieuements the which the dead king her husband held from heauen, may serue her for a Model and be the faire example for her to imitate, applying her selfe to the occasions of them that haue most merite, and not of them that vse most importunity: that shee may hearken to all mens requests but not to all mens flatteries, whereby all may haue occasion to say, that she is capable to raigne. That as the Moone holds her light, which she hath borrowed of

the

the Sunne, yet still changeth her Orbe to communicate it vnto vs: So she hath held the perfections, shee hath seene practised by the dead king, to serue herself in his absence, to her glory, to the profit of her sonne and his subiects. And also that as the Touch-stone that toucheth the gold and siluer and tryeth it, she may keepe in property this prudence and this goodnesse which she hath borrowed of his dead maiestie.

Veturia had great honour in Rome to haue returned the armies of his sonne, which he had prepared for the ruine of his Country: and *Mary* of *Medices*, our Queene shall receiue a great praise of al the world, to haue gouerned the state of our king her sonne, with so great wisedome, that there shall bee no difference found in the raigne passed and the raigne to come, that no sexe may hereafter speak of the raigne of a woman more then of hers, seeing all others haue but preceded her by time, & she aduanced by merit, & that the fayrest actions of others were but the predictions of the effects of her, that she may see the good time of her raigne through her sorrow, as the Sinzelme sees her selfe through a showre, and say by Augurisme that which you shall expect and we ioy in.

FINIS.

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